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CONFIDENTIAL**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP**
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Airfields in the Russian Zone

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ORIGIN [REDACTED]

DATE:**INFO.** June - August 1947**DIST.** 15 October 1947**PAGES** 2**SUPPLEMENT**

25X1X

1. Peenemünde (P-83)

25X1X

As a result of an SMA order of July 1947 to the German administration, 3,800 workers have been made available by labor offices for the construction of an airfield near Peenemünde.

Schönefeld (Z-93) 25X1X

2. a. [REDACTED] states that in mid-July the former Henschel factory field, which was completely dismantled, was being reconstructed by Siemens-Bauunion under Soviet direction. The Russians are also supplying construction materials for the repair of destroyed repair shops, billets, and administration buildings - all this with the explanation that this is to be an international airfield. Workers have been drafted for this project and it is planned to increase their strength to 3,000 by "recruiting" returned PWs of Frankfurt/Oder.

b. On or about 15 July, a [REDACTED] stated that work had already begun in two restored work rooms in the Henschel plant; 400 men were employed. Aircraft parts are being produced, boxed, addressed in Russian, and shipped to an unknown destination. Russian soldiers guard the shops as well as the airfield, on which thirty or thirty-five BATA-2 aircraft are based.

25X1A

COMMENT: To date no source has related the former Henschel field to another reported to have been started in the same area, although it is possible that they may finally constitute a single large field. A recent report, SO-8001, provided the text of SMA Order No. 112 (Potsdam, 26 June 1947) but this, unfortunately, contains no geographical description beyond the fact that "the area of land is to be requisitioned from the farmers of the communities of Diepensee and Schönefeld.")

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CLASSIFICATION

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐Class. ☒ **VOID**

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3. Johannisthal (L-94)

Until July 1947, Johannisthal played a secondary role as a training field. New orders call for a shift of training activities to the east so that the field may be enlarged to correspond in importance to Tempelhof, Berlin. Two new hangars will be built and the field will house medium-weight and fighter aircraft. Sections of Johannisthal and Adlershof are being vacated to provide quarters for 5,000 men. This shift of activity is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 1947.

Most of the 8,000 men at Grossenhain airfield in mid-July belonged to parachute units. Jumps were observed during the month. It is rumored, however, that these troops are to be transferred to the east (but inside Germany) in the near future. Mine chambers have been installed in the barracks and hangars, and the runway is to be blasted.

25X1A COMMENT: Present source, who calls Grosse "one of the largest and most modern German airports", is believed to be more reliable than the casual observer who reported in June that this field had only one hangar.)

5. Riesa (L-81)

Mine chambers have been installed for the demolition of this field, which has been used as a training base.

6. Köthen (D-95)

25X1X a. Observed on 23-24 June, this field appeared to be in use as a training center. thirty-two IL-2's flying in formation, eight of them equipped with a large caliber gun under each wing; twenty fast fighters with in-line engines, air scoops under the fuselage center, and tapered wings; on the field itself there were ten aircraft resembling the PL-2. According to local inhabitants, there are 800 to 1,000 men at the field. The intensive training dates from early June.

b. Similar activity at Köthen was reported in mid-July by another source, who estimates that there are 250 fighters there.

7. Rechlin (U-33)

25X1X who visited the town of Rechlin on 14 August states that although it is occupied by approximately 1,000 Russians, including dependents, no Soviet Air Force personnel were in evidence. Only occasional air activity has been noted by local residents.

8. Lärz (U-33)

Although the runway is still in fairly good condition (part of its 800-900 meters have been damaged) the field has been completely dismantled. Parts of destroyed or dismantled aircraft litter the edge of the field, among them some PL-162 turbine fighters. Date of observation was 14 August 1947.

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